

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed December 1, 2004, has been received and reviewed. Claims 45 through 89 are currently pending in the application, of which claims 45 through 79 are currently under examination. Claims 80 through 89 are withdrawn from consideration as being drawn to a non-elected invention, and have been canceled. Claims 45 through 79 stand rejected. respectfully request reconsideration of the application in light of the following remarks.

Double Patenting Rejections

Claims 45 through 79 stand rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1 through 46 of U.S. Patent No. 6,124,205.

Claims 45 through 79 stand rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1 through 24 of U.S. Patent No. 6,391,778. Applicants note that the foregoing rejection was made twice in the outstanding Office Action, in apparently identical language. Applicant presumes this was a word processing error. However, if the Examiner intended to make another rejection, he is respectfully requested to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney so that the different rejection may be properly addressed.

Claims 45 through 79 stand rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1 through 32 of U.S. Patent Application No. 6,395,628.

In order to avoid further expenses and time delay, Applicant elects to expedite the prosecution of the present application by filing a terminal disclaimer to obviate the double patenting rejections in compliance with 37 CFR §1.321 (b) and (c). Applicant's filing of the terminal disclaimers should not be construed as acquiescence in the Examiner's double patenting or obviousness-type double patenting rejections. Attached are three (3) terminal disclaimers and the required fees.

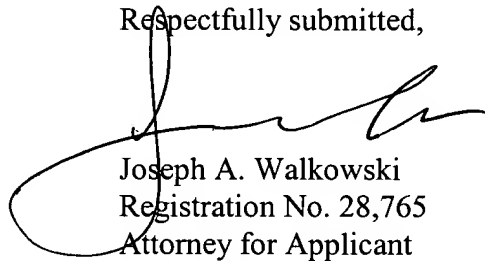
ENTRY OF AMENDMENTS

The amendments to the specification, Abstract and Drawings as proposed herein should be entered by the Examiner because the amendments are supported by the as-filed specification and drawings and do not add any new matter to the application.

CONCLUSION

Claims 45 through 79 are believed to be in condition for allowance, and an early notice thereof is respectfully solicited. Should the Examiner determine that additional issues remain which might be resolved by a telephone conference, he is respectfully invited to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAW/dlm:ljb:tlb

Attachments: Appendix A (Clean version of substitute specification excluding claims)
 Appendix B (Marked-up version of substitute specification excluding
 claims)
 Replacement Sheet 4/4 of drawings
 Annotated prior version of Sheet 4/4 Showing Changes

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IN THE DRAWINGS:

The attached replacement sheet 4/4 of drawings includes a change to FIG. 7. This sheet replaces the original sheet including FIGS. 6 and 7.

FIG. 7 has been amended herein. Specifically, FIG. 7 has been revised to delete the reference numeral --90-- with associated lead line. No new matter has been added.

A prior version of sheet 4/4 including FIG. 7 and showing the change marked in red is also attached hereto.

Serial No. 09/506,204

DRAWING APPENDIX

**(REPLACEMENT SHEET OF FIG. 7 AND
ANNOTATED SHEET SHOWING CHANGES)**

(Serial No. 09/506,204)

4/4

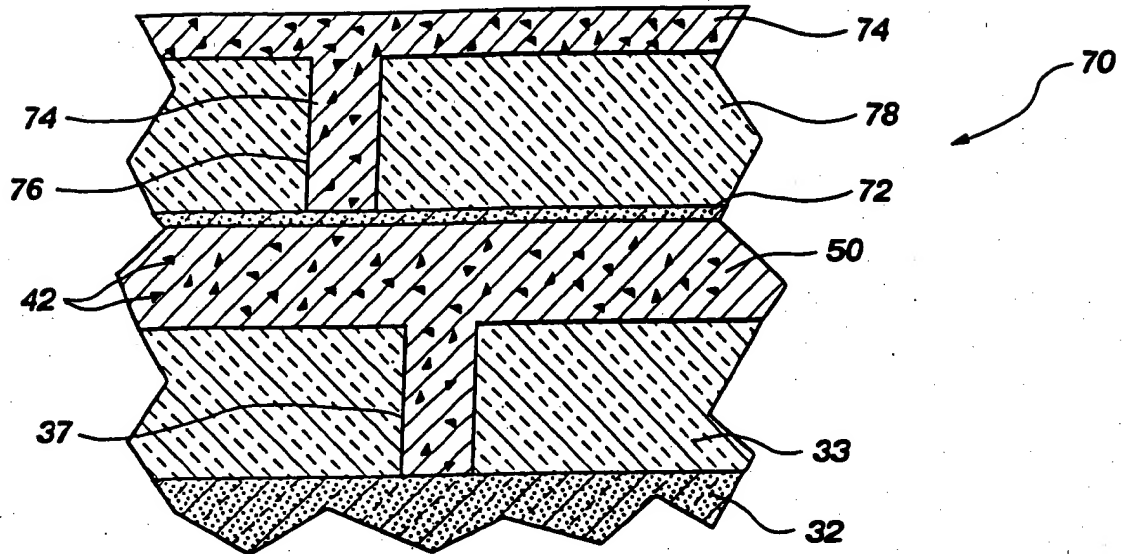
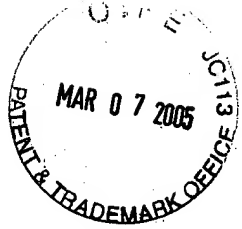


Fig. 6

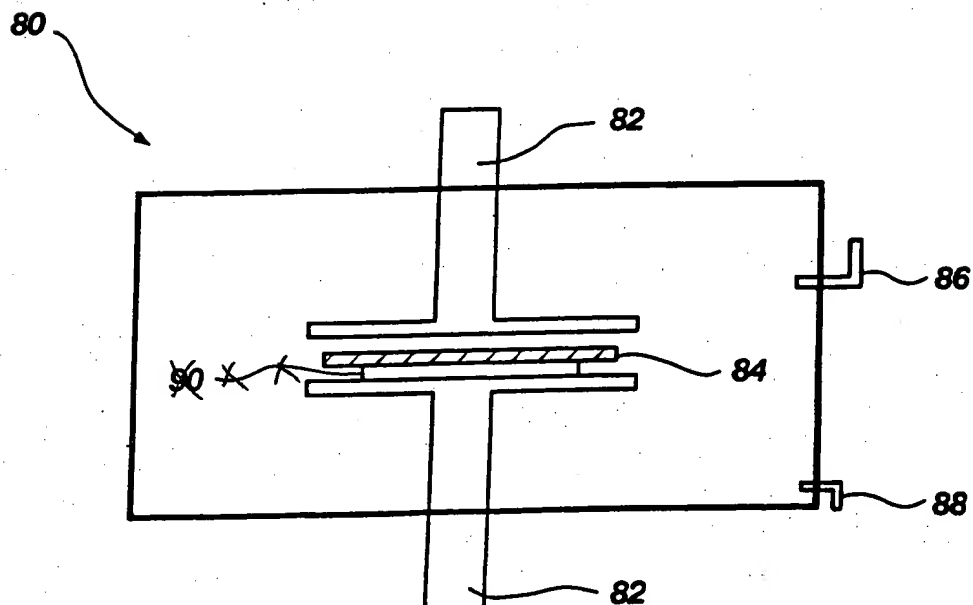


Fig. 7